

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus comprising a stamper configured to form pits and lands in a non-first layer in a multi-layer optical disc, said pits and lands defining data including an identifier tag which identifies the stamper as corresponding to a second stamper configured to form pits and lands in a first layer of the disc having a content different from a content of the second layer.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pits and lands in the first layer of the disc define data including a table of contents (TOC) for said disc, and wherein the identifier tag comprises at least a portion of the TOC.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the identifier tag comprises a complete copy of the TOC.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the identifier tag comprises a reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein the identifier tag ~~reference value~~ is configured to facilitate identification of a revision level of the stamper.

6. (Original) An injection molded article formed by the stamper of claim 1.

7. (Original) A multi-layer optical disc formed from the injection molded article of claim 6.

8. (Original) A multi-layer optical disc, comprising:

a first layer which stores a first set of user data and a table of contents (TOC) for the disc; and

a second layer aligned adjacent the first layer which stores a second set of user data and an identifier tag which identifies the second layer as corresponding to the first layer.

9. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the identifier tag comprises at least a portion of the TOC.

10. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the identifier tag comprises a reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

11. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 10, wherein the reference value is configured to facilitate identification of a revision level of the second level.

12. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 10, wherein the first layer further stores a second reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

13. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, further comprising a third layer which stores a third set of user data and a second identifier tag which identifies the third layer as corresponding to the first and second layers.

14. (Original) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the first and second layers are configured such that, during a readback operation, a light beam from an optical pickup impinges upon the first layer to read the first set of data and then passes through the first layer to impinge upon the second layer to read the second set of data.

15. (Original) A stamper used to form the second layer in accordance with claim 8.

16. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

forming a first layer for a multi-layer optical disc which stores a first portion of the contents of the disc ~~set of user data~~ and a table of contents (TOC) for the disc; and

forming a second layer for the disc configured to be aligned adjacent the first layer and which stores a different, second portion of the contents of the disc ~~set of user data~~ and an identifier tag which identifies the second layer as corresponding to the first layer.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising attaching the second layer to the first layer.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising forming a third layer for the disc configured to be aligned adjacent the second layer which stores a third set of user data and a second identifier tag which identifies the third layer as corresponding to the first and second layers.

19. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising using the identifier tag to test the second layer apart from the first layer.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising using the identifier tag to identify a revision level of the second set of user data.

21. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first and second stampers are further configured to be used concurrently to form the respective first and second layers of the disc in an injection molding process.

22. (New) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the pits and lands of the non-first layer define sectors over a first range of sector addresses for the disc, and the pits and lands of the first layer define sectors over a different, second range of sector addresses for the disc.

23. (New) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the first and second layers are each embedded within the optical disc and separated by an intermediary layer of epoxy.

24. (New) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the second layer does not store a TOC for the disc.

25. (New) the multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the first set of data comprises a first file, and the second set of data comprises a second file not located on the first layer.

26. (New) The multi-layer optical disc of claim 8, wherein the disc is configured such that during a read operation upon the disc, the disc is continuously rotated in accordance with a selected velocity profile and, during said continuous rotation, the first and second layers are sequentially read to recover the contents of the disc.

27. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising a step of sequentially reading the first portion and the second portion of the contents of the disc while continuously rotating the disc.

28. (New) An apparatus comprising:

a first stamper configured to form pits and lands in a first layer of a multi-layer optical disc; and

a second stamper configured to form pits and lands in a second layer of the disc, the second layer comprising an identifier tag which identifies the second stamper as corresponding to the first stamper, the identifier tag comprising a reference value associated with the contents of the disc.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 28, wherein the pits and lands in the first layer of the disc define data including a table of contents (TOC) for said disc, and wherein the identifier tag further comprises at least a portion of the TOC.

30. (New) An injection molded article formed by the second stamper of claim 28.

31. (New) A multi-layer optical disc formed from the injection molded article of claim 30.